

VOL. III

NO. 3

# THE CALIFORNIA ECLECTIC MEDICAL JOURNAL

Incorporating  
THE LOS ANGELES JOURNAL OF ECLECTIC MEDICINE  
AND THE CALIFORNIA MEDICAL JOURNAL.

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**PRUNUS.**—**USE.**—To relieve irritation of the lower branches of the pneumogastric, or irritation of the stomach, with cough—gastric or hepatic cough.

**IPECACUANHA.**—**INDICATIONS.**—Irritation of mucous membranes, with increased circulation. **USE.**—To relieve irritation of the gastro-intestinal mucous membrane, a remedy for vomiting, especially for cholera infantum, and for dysentery. To arrest hemorrhage from any portion of the body.

**LOBELIA.**—**INDICATIONS.**—Full oppressed pulse; oppression of the chest with difficult respiration. **USE.**—In minute doses, a vascular stimulant. A single large dose relieves angina pectoris, and diseases of the chest of a similar character. Favors dilation of the cervix uteri in parturition, and is classed as a specific for rigid os.

**STICTA.**—**INDICATIONS.**—Pains in the shoulders, extending to neck and back of head. **USE.**—A remedy in rheumatism and chronic coughs.

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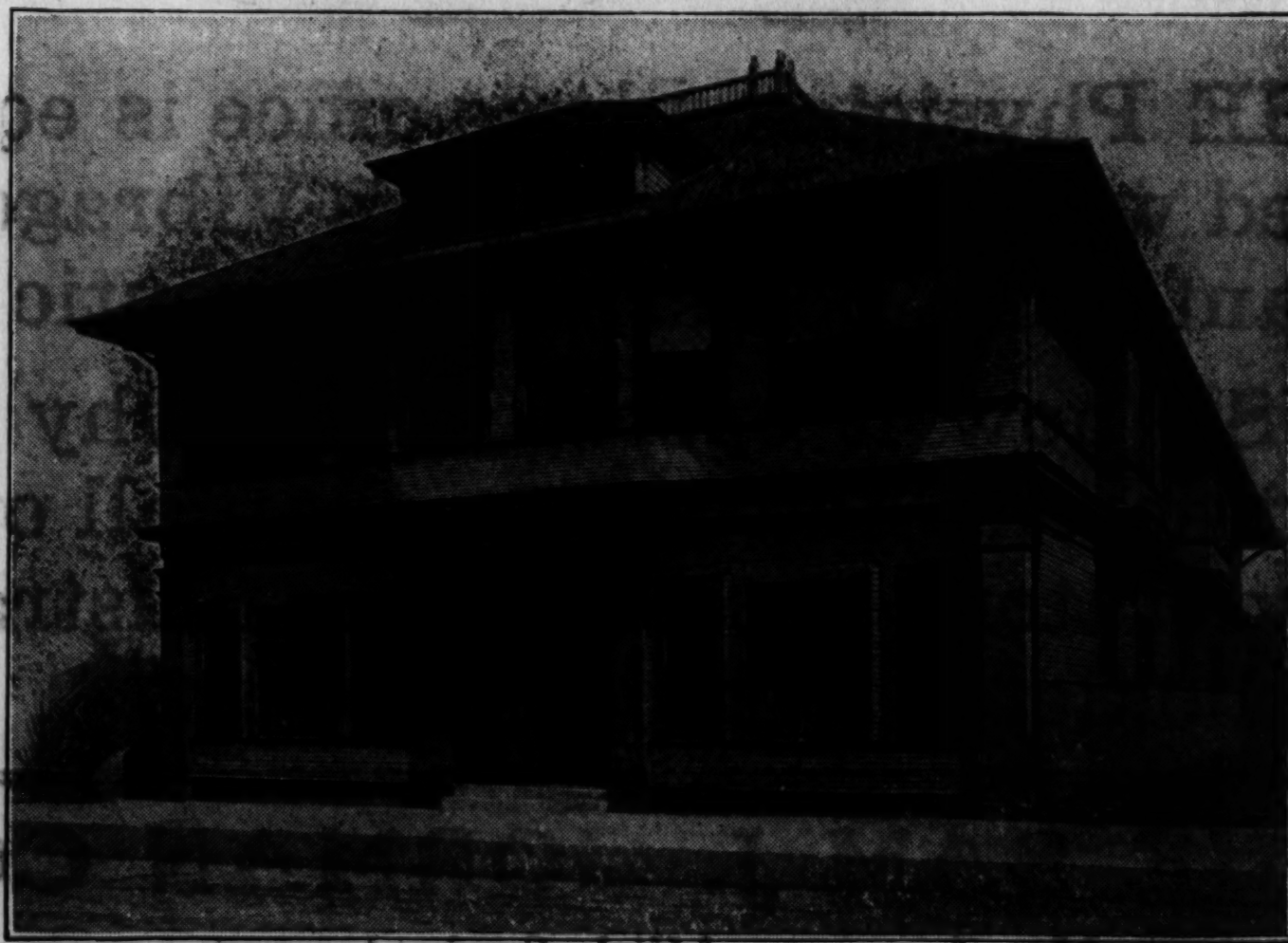


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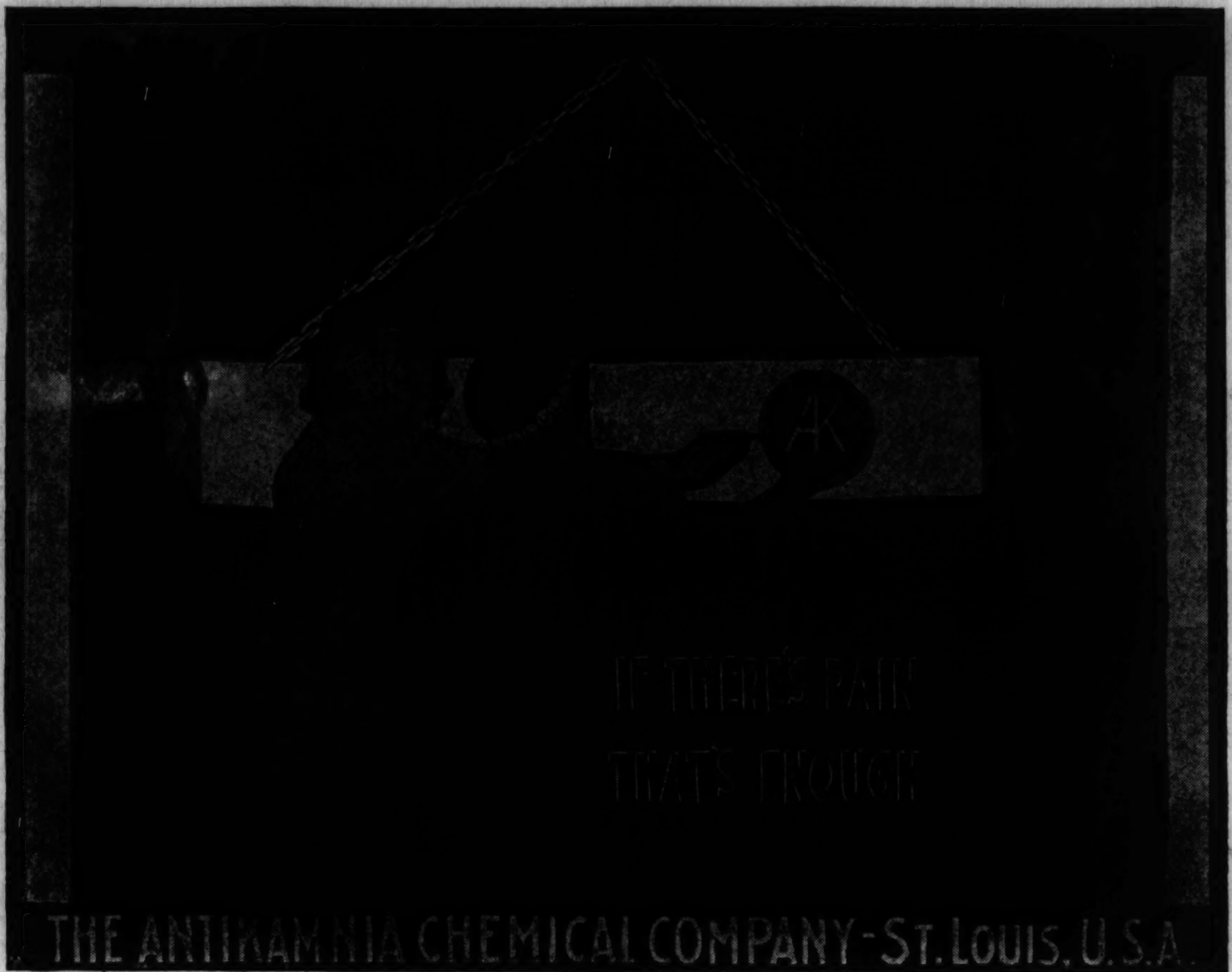
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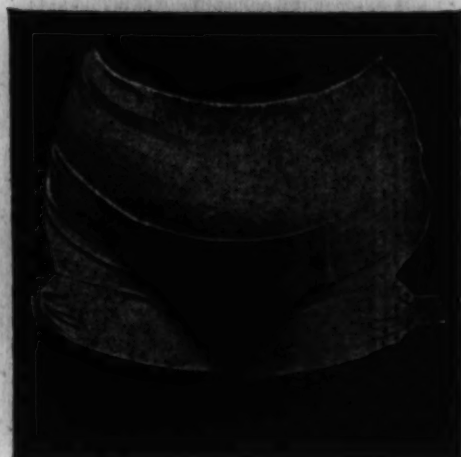
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# The California Eclectic Medical Journal

Vol. III

MARCH, 1910

No. 3

## Original Contributions

### ECLECTICISM, WHAT IT IS NOT AND WHAT IT IS.

J. A. Baird, M.D., Los Angeles, California.

Read before the Los Angeles County Eclectic Medical Society.

To begin with it is not an epileptic medical society though some of them may be found in its ranks. Neither is it a school of fanatics though doubtless some of those have crept in un-awares. Neither is it a school of medicine where any kind of ignoramus can be converted into an M. D., though some are wearing that title received from Eclectic Medical Colleges as many others from all other schools of medicine. It is not a school of electric doctors though half the laity seem to think Electric and Eclectic are synonymous terms and yet we may justly boast that the marvelous mysterious power of that subtle fluid designated. Electro Therapeutics is taught at least in the California Eclectic Medical College as thoroughly as in any college in our broad land so that no student need go out ignorant of the uses of electricity in all its varied forms as known today. Whether it be the simple magnetic current the Faradic, sinusoidal, static, Xray, violet ray, or any of the other varied forms known to scientific research it is taught and illustrated in the C. E. M. C.

It is not a school of medicine that has formulated a system upon and within the small confines of twelve tissue remedies but makes use of these twelve remedies as it does all other remedies obtaining results at times that are truly marvelous and that perhaps could not be obtained by anything else. Neither is it built upon the doctrine of similia similibus curantur making a specialty of high potency but it does make use of this doctrine, and high potency and has recognized the wondrous potent power for good when a medicine has been triturated so high that its original identity seems to be lost and when given according to the truth of like cures like the results have been such as to almost seem incredulous and draw forth such a remark from the opposite school as, "If you poured in a teaspoonful of a specific medicine or mother tincture in the Niagara river above the falls and drew out a teaspoonful of water below, how much of the original medicine



would you have in your teaspoon dose and what results could you possibly get?" The answer is very simple according to the Scotch plan by asking another question, viz: "If you bring a bloodhound to the spot where a negro was last seen twenty-four hours after he was there how much of that negro's entire anatomy will be found in the dog's nostrils and what result can you possibly look for?" Answer, within a few hours we expect to have the negro treed.

Again it is not a system whereby your headache, backache, heartache, or belly ache is cured by stretching or straightening the patient's spinal column. But the true Eclectic is alert to discover if that spine requires stretching or straightening and sets about doing it, in many cases curing the aches that nothing else would cure. Neither is it a system built around the doctrine that pure air, plenty of sunshine and pure water is all the medicine required to cure every curable disease and many that are not, but, Eclecticism makes a right and proper use of these three powerful and potent agencies to bring about a state of health in patients where all other remedies and methods would be unavailing. Nor is it a system sending its teachers about the country giving health lectures telling the people if they only will abstain from meats, eat no breakfast and not sit on their livers, they will always be perfectly well, never contract so much as a cold and their grey hair will turn to its original pristine beauty, to say nothing of baldheads becoming adorned with a luxuriant crop of soft, glossy hair such as they possessed in their youthful days. But it teaches that a suitable diet according to the needs of the patient with proper exercise and anatomically correct manner of sitting, walking, standing and breathing is with other indicated remedies highly conducive to a long, healthy life.

Nor yet is it a system which teaches that water cold or hot without the aid of any other remedy will assuredly cure the human family of all ailments to which flesh is heir though its followers most assuredly make use of Hydrotherapy in all its varied phases, whether it be a hot bath, a cold bath, a sponge bath, an electric bath, a wet sheet pack or any other kind of pack or application of water cold or hot that the intelligent Eclectic may deem prudent, and get results that without them would be slow in coming if indeed at all times possible.

Neither is it the great system of medicine founded upon "contrario contrariis curantur," which verily believes there is not another method of cure and that what they don't know is not worth knowing and truly believes that wisdom will die with them, at the same time having but little confidence in medicine at all, trusting to nature and good luck to cure as they



say eighty per cent of all their cases and that the rest will die anyway. Their notorious ignorance of materia medica and therapeutics has driven them to surgery so that nearly all cases are operable with them and a successful doctor means that you have had a great many good paying surgical cases although, perhaps their only excuse in many cases for the operation was they could not diagnose the case to their own or their patient's satisfaction, and so performed a laparotomy for the trifling sum of \$500.00 in order to hunt for a pain, or may be their bank account was low, making the operation imperative. When they do give medicine it is with the thought that disease is a something which must be fought with drugs of sufficient dosage and strength to drive the enemy out so the poor patient has to stand or withstand the awful bombardment of the powerful and in many case deadly drugs on the principle of knocking life out to keep it in. This is the same school that used to nine times out of ten perform venesection and give a round of calomel. Oh! no, Eclecticism is not that, though it recognizes the truth in *contrario contrariis curantur* and uses all the wise and sensible things connected with the system repudiating everything that is not for the welfare of the patient.

Webster gives a definition of Eclecticism something like the following: An American system of medicine, the followers of which select the best from all other systems, having special regard to indigenous plant remedies and the conservation of the vital forces. This is good as far as it goes but it doesn't go far enough. He might have said it is a school of medicine having its origin in America the followers of which select the proper indicated remedy or remedies whether recognized by any other system or not, whether organic or inorganic, whether indigenous to this or any other country and always keeping in view the conservation of the vital forces. This is Eclecticism.

And what is an Eclectic? Answer: A physician and surgeon who believes in the indicated remedy at all times, who is trained and skilled in the knowledge and use of the remedies he prescribes for his patients, who understands the language of disease, its characteristics and manifestations as seen in the human being using every faculty of his being to discover physiological wrongs and these same faculties in setting them right whether it be by the use of one 10,000 of a grain of atropine or a pint decoction of bitter herb or a smile and a one-half hour talk of encouragement or the gift of some money to buy necessary food and raiment to a poor discouraged mortal, or it may be the use of a sharp knife to perform



a circumcision to relieve a nervous irritation or the cutting into the abdominal cavity to remove some foreign body or growth or correct some wrong or the application of forceps to hasten a delivery that without it might end disastrously to mother and child. In a word the Eclectic doctor is a skilled anatomist, bacteriologist, pathologist, hydro osteopathist and electro therapist skilled in the knowledge and use of instruments and appliances of all kinds but especially a man with a profound knowledge of *Materia Medica* and Therapeutics and having implicit faith in the remedies he uses and prescribes and yet with all a very definite knowledge of how short he and every other man comes of the ideal physician which the Eclectic school of medicine is alone capable of producing.

Eclecticism, with its long vigorous arms stretches out and plucks the buds, flowers, leaves, fruits, roots or barks from the highest mountains and deepest valleys in all quarters of the earth, makes the bowels of the earth yield to its rich store, compasses the rivers, lakes and seas, gathering from their depths the healing virtues of what they contain and bringing the various animals and even insects to its storehouse and laboratory, extracting from them their healing powers. Eclecticism teaches its disciples to be doctors who can and do formulate and if necessary fill their own Rx not allowing some manufacturing chemist 1000 miles away to prescribe for their patients, because it is so easy. It teaches them to use the right remedy of a known quality whether it be a specific medicine, an alkaloid or the crude drug without regard to price. It teaches them never to put their patients to any useless expense but never spares any means that will be for their best interests. In a word it teaches them to do the right thing at the right time, in the right place, in the right way, with a right motive—to do all the good they can to all the people they can, in all the places they can, and as often as ever they can.

Perhaps enough has been said to show what an Eclectic really is, however, one more word seems necessary. Other schools of medicine seem to think an Eclectic is a physician who prescribes nothing but specific medicines. That is to say the products of Lloyd Brothers of Cincinnati, Ohio, which is not true at all, but, as already stated he uses the very best to be found and as Lloyd Brothers have given, not only to Eclectics but to the entire medical profession medicines which for purity, reliability and activity are today without a rival, he uses them with a feeling of trust that they are exactly what they are represented to be, pure and true to name, getting results which otherwise would be impossible. And the writer





CALIFORNIA ECLECTIC MEDICAL JOURNAL.

feels that he cannot close this paper without extending his heart-felt gratitude to the noble and successful efforts of the said firm in putting into our hands weapons upon which we can depend to combat disease.

And with the great principles for which Eclecticism stands Specific Diagnosis and Specific Medication, are inseparably connected the names of Dr. John M. Scudder and Lloyd Bros.

**THE INTERNATIONAL PLAYGROUND.**

J. A. Munk, M.D., Los Angeles, California.

We speak of the southwest as our National Playground because of its favorable climatic conditions which permit of an almost daily comfortable outdoor life. The few persons who have visited the southwest know what it is like and many more are coming every year who are in search of health or pleasure and want to find out; but the hordes of people that live in the far east and north and are subject to all kinds of weather extremes, either know of it only from report, or live in blissful ignorance of anything better than their own little environment.

The southwest is not only a national playground but, owing to some recent events, a certain spot in the southwest, the Los Angeles plain on the littoral of Southern California, has suddenly sprung into fame as the International Playground of America by the meeting of nations in a friendly contest of airships flying in midwinter. During the eleven days which were included in the event, from January 10 to 20, no inclement weather intervened to prevent the airships flying, but each day of the course the programme was carried out as prearranged. While Southern California was enjoying its customary delightful weather of warm sunshine and calm, the rest of the country was blizzard swept and lying under a mantle of snow and zero temperature.

After centuries of striving to discover an invention that would enable man to navigate the air, the difficult and seemingly impossible feat has been successfully accomplished; and the people of Los Angeles were among the first to see men fly through the air like birds. The first sight of such a flight, seeing the supposedly impossible to actually happen, gives a distinctly new thrill of surprise. The act is not a succession of short flights and jumps like a projectile ricocheting along the surface of the earth but actually flying high up in the air and soaring as graceful and easy as an eagle. How this discovery will affect human life on this globe is yet to be seen, but now that the pace of sailing the air has been set it will be strange in-



deed, if the art of flying does not rapidly grow and expand until traveling in an airship will become as common as riding in an automobile, which mode of locomotion was thought to be as impossible as flying only a few years ago.

New world records were made on the Dominguez aviation field and Louis Paulhan, the French aviator did something daring and spectacular every day during the meet to interest and entertain the great crowds. He flew through the air as free and easy as a bird. One day he sailed up into the sky nearly a mile high and when he came down and landed on the very spot from which he started he touched the earth as light as a feather. His cross-country flight of forty-five miles to Arcadia and back was another record breaker; and thus, every day something unusual and exciting happened. The local management was a complete success. The gate receipts amounted to \$137,000.00 and the subscribers to the expense fund not only received all their money back but also an additional percentage of profit by the division of a surplus.

Some remarks on the subject in the Los Angeles Times are suggestive and pertinent. More than ever before, the aviation meet has emphasized the recognized fact that Southern California is the playground of the world. We have here the skies, the sea, the mountains and the plains. We have the climate, the moderate breezes. There are more bright days, less nipping frosts and less oppressive heat in Southern California, taking the year around, than anywhere else on earth. A statement like this used to cause a raising of eyebrows, shrugging of the shoulders and interrogation points in the eyes of those who heard the boast. All these signs of doubt are passed and there is no longer any need to re-assert the fact as it is known of all intelligent people. These are the things which attract here year after year the largest company of tourists that visit any place in the world.

The hundred thousand visitors that come here during the year will in the natural course of events soon be doubled, and all will have to be amused and entertained. Everybody enjoys the delightful climate and scenery and weeks and months can be profitably spent in sight-seeing. But aside from the natural attractions, games must be added to the playground. There are plenty of theaters, as large and as fine playhouses as those of any other city of equal size, that help to fill an important gap. But this is an outdoor land and the sports that will attract the most people here are those that take place in the open under the blue skies and in the beautiful setting of our charming scenery. Automobiling is a fascinating pastime and under favorable conditions, furnishes much agreeable diversion.



Everything here is suited to this sport and when the new system of boulevards, which is now in process of construction, is finished, the roads will be ideal for automobiling. Automobiles are very much in evidence and the number of licensed motor cars in California is not much less than 30,000.

Pasadena, a city much smaller than Los Angeles, has set the metropolis and all the smaller cities an admirable example in her Tournament of Roses, held annually on New Year's day. Year after year the press dispatches flash over the world stories of the flower show at Pasadena and the eyes of the world are turned this way. Aviation week has carried the name of Los Angeles and Southern California farther than they have ever gone before and the impression produced upon the minds of those who have heard of us for the first time, as well as on those who are more familiar with our affairs, have been made deeper than anything else could have produced. The tests of these airships and the flights they made were more successful than at any other place. The spiral stairway towards the stars described by the fearless Paulhan is pictured in newspapers and periodicals and will be flashed upon the screen at moving picture shows from one end of the world to the other.

About the only show which has not yet been added to our list of attractions are regattas or yacht races on a large scale. At no place in the world could such races be pulled off more successfully than on the placid waters of our coast. This sport seems to have been missed or overlooked by our amusement caterers but will undoubtedly soon be arranged, now that attention has been called to the subject. Los Angeles has the playground and she also proposes to furnish the games.

### TOXINE OF STINGRAY FISH.

V. Millasich, M.D., Galveston, Texas.

Read Before the California Eclectic Medical Society.

Allow me to present you a paper on poisonous toxin of Ray Fish, which habitates the gulf and coast of Mexico. The Ray or Stingaree Fish of flounder life form, with the exception of having a long tail, which is sometimes a yard or more long, according to the size of the fish.

On the upper part of its tail, on or about the middle of it, there is a fang of stiletto-like form, pointed at its extreme end, and broader on the tail end of it. That projectile has very prominent teeth on both sides of its fang, the teeth are in direction from before backward, so that when it enters the parts, and on account of the opposition of teeth, it makes it very hard to pull out, but sometimes it breaks



within the wound, and then cannot be pulled out, without surgical interference.

The fang above named, is attached to the upper part of its tail in a ginglymus-like joint, and when the fish lays motionless on the bottom of the sea, the fang then lays flat on its tail, but the moment the fish is molested it flaps forward and sways its tail furiously in various directions. Its fang then stays upward prominent, and if it happens to attack any part of the human body, then that is the time that it inflicts its punitive effect.

The fang of the fish has some kind of peculiar acrid toxic property, so when it is carried within the parts, it causes an instantaneous, fulminating piercing and tearing pain.

Some of the shining lights of medical fraternity claim that the pain is due to the entrance within the wound of some unknown micro organism, which I doubt very much. If the pain developed some time or hours afterward, I might think that it due to infection, but being such that it is fulminating, instantaneous and excruciating pain then I presume that the pain is due to some concentrated acrid toxic properties peculiar to that fish only.

After the fang of the Ray, with its toxin enters the tissue, it causes the flesh as well as the blood and all the tissues entered to distegrate, it turns into dark and almost black sanious substance, which is very offensive, and if it is not removed in time, the poison will progress, until the injured part and even the life itself may be imperiled.

Here, a few months ago, I was treating a Spanish fisherman, who while fishing along the waters of the Gulf of Mexico near Galveston, was attacked by a stingaree, its fang entering the man's leg about three and one half inches above the ankle of his right foot, upward, inward and forward, passing about four inches into the leg, reaching nearly to the bone, and tearing muscular tissue and fascia into an ugly and unsightly wound. Being at sea for about three days, without medical assistance, the man suffered untold agony. On arrival in this city, I examined the wound carefully, but not knowing the poisonous effect of the virus and its peculiarity, I treated it as a simple affair. I cleansed the wound, dressed it and sent my patient away, telling him to return on the following day. When he again presented himself as directed, I found the leg more swollen and painful, and the flesh around the injury, purple-black. I then concluded that this was a very serious matter. I probed the wound, the probe entering for about four inches and found the tissues very soft and boggy, I then concluded that some heroic treatment was needed.



I instructed the patient to return home and prepare for an immediate operation in order to save the leg and perhaps, his very life. Upon my arrival soon after at the patient's house, I immediately administered one-quarter grain of morphine hypodermically, then with a little preparatory asepsis, I opened the leg through the skin muscles and fascia, until the periosteum was reached.

The incision was about four inches in length in the direction of the wound, which was almost parallel with the muscular tissue.

On opening the part, I found black semi-liquid substance, I sponged the parts and curetted deep in and all around the wound for all possible necrotic material. I irrigated it with Hydrogen Dioxide, and then with hot bichloride 1:4000, dressed the wound with sublimate gauze, and instructed the patient to keep the parts well elevated and moistened with bichloride solution until my return.

Upon my return to the house later, I found the patient resting comparatively well, and with hardly any pain at all. He had slept for four hours which he had been unable to do but very little for several days. I again opened the wound and irrigated it with same solution, dressed it and left instructions as before.

The following day I found my patient resting easier and the dusky color of the leg started to disappear. Six days after the operation the color of the leg became almost normal. The wound was clean except in one part there was tendency to necrosis, curetted the spot, dressed as before and departed. The next day I irrigated the wound again and dressed it with iodoform gauze and powder. In a few days the wound was granulating nicely, but being deep it was long and gaping, I concluded to bring its edges together, not by suturing through the tissues, but by applying adhesive plaster alongside of its edges, and then suturing through the plaster, which I did. Before suturing the parts I placed the iodoform gauze lint in, and everything worked finely.

On the eleventh day after suturing, I found complete union except in one and same place as before, where there was some necrosis, and that part resisted all my efforts and every form of treatment.

I grew suspicious and inquired of the patient as to his previous history concerning syphilitic disease. He admitted having syphilis about one year previous which was very rebellious to treatment.

Thereupon I placed my patient upon my only syphilitic



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treatment, and eight days later I could perceive a change, and in a few days longer I discharged him as well.

My only syphilitic treatment was as follows:

Specific tincture Echinacea  $\mathfrak{zss}$ .

Specific tincture Berberry.

Specific tincture Phytolacca.

Specific tincture Corydalis aa.  $\mathfrak{ziss}$ .

Pot. Iodide  $\mathfrak{ziii}$ .

Syrup simplex, qs.  $\mathfrak{zvi}$ .

M sig. Drachms two every three hours, for three days, then drachm one, four times per day, Diet nutritious and plenty of it.

P. S. You will say that my treatment was not Eclectic according to specific medication of mono---- but poly pharmacy. Well, what do I care, I respect the Eclectic mode of treatment, but my medicine did the work, and that was what I was after.

If any Eclectic brother comes to these shores in time, and runs across such a case, all he has to do, is to open freely, curette deeply, irrigate well, clean, and keep on cleaning, dressing well and parts elevated.

### SANGUINARIA CANADENSIS.

W. Leming, M.D., Tucumcari, N. M.

Specific Indications: Sluggish capillary circulation with relaxation of mucous membrane, and general inactivity of the nervous system.

In an excellent report, Dr. Herbert T. Webster, California, enumerated the fields of action of the drug, and the order and ratio of susceptibility as follows. "Sanguinaria acts on four separate anatomical fields:

"1. It influences the respiratory tract; and this is probably its most important place of action.

"2. It acts on the uterus; and this is probably its second place of selective power.

"3. It acts on the liver similarly to Chelidonium.

"4. It selectively influences the heart, and belongs in a class with digitalis, though it is slower in action."

Sanguinaria is primarily a stimulant in action, although the use of the drug in large doses or over too long a period of time, has given rise to its employment in a certain class of troubles where a relaxant might be employed. As with a great many drugs, Sanguinaria may be used as a variety of remedies by simply changing the dosage. Personally I believe Sanguinaria should be reserved for the action which is manifested when



the drug is given in the ordinary small stimulant dose of say, one-half to one drop. In a dose short of depression, it is a specific stimulant to and inciter of mucous membranes and the capillary circulation. The stimulant action appears primarily, and as a rule, its effects should cease here.

Potter claims that it increases secretion by irritating the secretory organs as it is eliminated although the secretion occasioned by the use of the remedy in large doses, could just as readily be ascribed the cause, as with large doses where there is great relaxation, and symptoms of collapse, with cold, clammy skin, dilated pupils, great thirst and anxiety, violent vomiting, spinal depression, and in lethal doses, death from paralysis of the respiratory and cardiac centers.

The remedy has gained the greatest renown as an agent in respiratory wrongs. It is a specific for the wrongs associated with pulmonary or bronchial congestion and relaxation of tissue with increased secretion and diminished sensibility, (given in small doses) where a tonic, astringent, and expectorant action is desired. Webster says it is best adapted to the acute conditions from the larynx downward to the termination of the large bronchi, with dry, hoarse cough, and burning sensations in the parts. He says the spasmodic element is not marked. The case to which he probably refers, is not one of the acuteness of Aconite, Ipecacuanha, etc. There is always a certain degree of depression of tissue present where a stimulant is called for.

Sanguinaria seems to me to be all the more demanded when there are thick, "nasty" discharges, with a bad odor, and several reports verify this point.

It gives me the best of results in Pulmonary Tuberculosis especially when combined with diluted Phosphoric Acid, always remembering to use the drug short of nausea and relaxation. Of course, it only relieves its portion of the disease. In such cases, it has relieved passive hemorrhages for me. It has been mentioned for hemorrhages in various parts of the body. The drug has likewise been useful in various respiratory troubles giving the specific indications. Reports show its usefulness in nasal catarrh and polypus, with thick, profuse, foul discharges, headache in the temples and back of the head.

Dr. J. M. G. Waddington, Michigan, gives as a general indication: "Much soreness of the chest, congestion, with dry irritated cough, and extremely relaxed pharyngeal tissues."

This last element of atonicity must be considered, regardless of the diagnosis.

Using the large, depressing dose, Sanguinaria has been useful in membranous croup. The Acetic Tincture was men-



tioned by several reporters as a remedy here, one writing, "It relieves in a few minutes;" another, "I have seen it cure the worse cases."

In a disease of the reproductive organs, Sanguinaria has given some marked cures. It has been used in the various wrongs here, relieving the reflex irritations accompanying, as sick headache, etc. Webster reports several cases where the use of the drug in large doses, produced miscarriage. I, myself, have seen it produce "overflows" in both sexes, some men being unable to take the drug on this account, where it was otherwise useful in respiratory wrongs present. Where Sanguinaria is indicated, in genitory diseases, it acts well.

One uterine case in particular; Mrs. O., 25 years of age, married five years, diagnosis Exfoliative Metritis. Patient pale and anaemic, with the various menstrual pains, and a history of the shedding each month of a complete cast of the uterus, intact. Curettage had been employed twice without success, together with Iodine applications, etc. Specific Medicine Sanguinaria was given in one-third drop doses every three hours. The month following the institution of treatment, conception took place but the patient aborted a week later due probably to a fall. Much discouraged, she began another month's treatment with the results of a natural labor at term, and complete restoration to health.

As a remedy for the glandular system and the liver, the drug has not been sufficiently studied to verify its uses. Webster says it is indicated by bilious states, with pains and aches in the hepatic region, and sense of fullness in the abdomen, also for vomiting of watery fluid and bile, often with myalgic pains accompanying.

On the heart, its action is likewise unstudied.

The following uses for the drug have been reported by Dr. Eli G. Jones, N. J.:

"The nitrate of Sanguinaria is the remedy for Chronic Nasal Catarrh with altered voice. For mucous nasal polypi, I have used a snuff of equal parts of Sanguinaria (concentration) and flour, used two or three times a day. For ulcers on the cornea, the third decimal dilution applied locally to the ulcerated surfaces, is the best remedy. For unhealthy granulations, fungus growth, and ingrowing toe-nails, a 3x. dilution of the Nitrate is the remedy above all others for a local application. It is the remedy for sick headaches when the pain begins in the back of the head and spreads over the head, settling over the right eye, photophobia and nausea accompanying." He also recommends it as an application in cancerous growths.



The principal point to be remembered in the administration of the drug in all cases where its specific action is desired, is to keep the dose short of depression and relaxation.

Report for March, Apis Mel; April, Jaborandi; May, Apocynum. Can. Physicians are requested to report any drug uses.

### CLINICAL CASES IN SURGICAL GYNECOLOGY.

Dr. O. C. Welbourn, Los Angeles, Cal.

Read Before the Los Angeles County Eclectic Medical Society.

The following patients were operated upon during December at the Westlake Hospital for the benefit of the class in surgical gynecology of the C. E. M. C., and they are reported to this society at this time upon the request of your president.

Case No. 1. Dr. H., age 26, She gave a history of pus tubes for which three operations were performed during 1907 and 1908, at the first of which both tubes and ovaries were removed. She has had fairly good health for the last year, except menstruating every three weeks and the annoyance of a large post-operative hernia. She recently noticed an increase of pain in the right side of the pelvis with the protrusion of a mass into the same side of the vagina. Temperature, pulse and respiration were found to be normal; heart, lungs and kidneys were normal. A physical examination of the pelvis revealed a tender fluctuating tumor at the right side of the uterus. After proper preparation, a laparotomy was performed. A great deal of work was necessary before the adhesions were loosened sufficiently to get at the tumor which proved to be a cyst of the right broad ligament, as large as a small orange—rather an unusual condition. After enucleation of the tumor there was so much oozing of blood that it was necessary to employ a gauze drain. We elected to place it through the right side of the vaginal vault, and this somewhat hazardous procedure was safely accomplished. Neither ovary nor tube was found during the operation. The uterus appeared about normal. To overcome the inconvenience of the post operative hernia, it was deemed wise to dissect out all of the old cicatrix after which the abdomen was closed by the layer method. She made an uneventful convalescence and left her bed in three weeks.

Case No. 2. Mrs. M., age 18. She gave a history of having contracted gonorrhoea eleven months previously, and still has a profuse vaginal discharge. Temperature 102 degrees, pulse 120, respiration 22. Heart, lungs and kidneys were normal. Her general appearance is typical of chronic sepsis. Physical



examination of the pelvis revealed the left tube in a normal position, but greatly enlarged and tender. A large fluctuating mass in the right side of the pelvis apparently contained the other one. After the usual preparation, a laparotomy was done. The left tube was removed without rupture and the left ovary found to be reasonably healthy. The inflammatory mass in the right side was found to be an abscess embracing the right tube, ovary and appendix, as well as a portion of the ilium and broad ligament; all of which proved to be very friable. However, the most of it was removed piecemeal. A gauze drain was placed through the abdominal incision and there was a free flow of pus for six weeks. She had a stormy convalescence but left the hospital at the end of four weeks and has now fully recovered; except that she has not yet had time to overcome the anemia induced by the chronic sepsis.

Case No. 3. Miss L., age 24. She gave a history of chronic dyspepsia and an irritable condition of the nervous system. Temperature, pulse and respiration normal. Physical examination revealed an old right indirect hernia—rather an unusual condition in woman,—also a tender right floating kidney. Heart and lungs normal. A microscopical examination of the urine indicated chronic nephritis. After the usual preparation, the right kidney was decapsulated, explored and suspended. The hernia was closed by a modified Bassini operation. The patient enjoyed an uneventful convalescence and left the hospital at the expiration of four weeks. At this writing, her nervous distress has markedly abated and her dyspepsia has almost disappeared. She may confidently expect to be entirely free from both of these symptoms in due time.

Case No. 4. Miss B., age 26. She gave a history of an irregular fever with a great deal of pelvic pain for two or three weeks. Also that she has had several of these attacks within the last year. Temperature 103 degrees, pulse 130, respiration 25. Heart, lungs and kidneys normal. She shows the usual signs of chronic sepsis—greatly emaciated and profoundly anemic. Physical examination of the pelvis reveals both tubes in a normal position, but greatly enlarged and tender. She had the usual surgical preparation and a laparotomy was performed. The adhesions encountered were both extensive and firm, but both tubes were eventually entirely removed, though one ruptured. It was deemed best to use drainage and a gauze trailer was introduced through the cul-de-sac into the vagina. The incision was closed with catgut in the usual manner. Protracted vomiting followed the operation and she was greatly prostrated in consequence. However, she



left the hospital at the expiration of four weeks and is now gaining very rapidly in flesh and strength.

### DIETETICS.

Q. A. R. Holton, M.D., Whittier, California.

Dr. Glenski isolated the orifice of the salivary glands of dogs by dissecting them out and causing them to heal into an opening in the skin by which he was able to observe the flow of saliva under different conditions and determine its amount and quality by having attached to the open orifice a test tube. When the dog was fed meat the tube attached to the submaxillary rapidly filled with saliva. The same result followed when the dog was merely tempted by the sight and smell of meat. A pinch of fine sand thrown in the mouth had the same effect. A little acid rubbed on the buccal membrane gave a like result, seeming to show almost universal excitability of this gland from either psychic or mechanical influence. Not so with the parotid gland. This gland remained quiescent under the temptation of savory meat and also when raw meat was given it but gave an abundant flow when finely powdered meat was placed in its mouth. Moist bread caused very little flow while dry bread caused copious flow.

So we see that the different salivary glands are not aroused to action by the same stimuli. We may therefore conclude that their offices are not identical. Evidently they were not all chucked away in their respective niches because there happened to be a little available space. Since they are excited to action by different agents may not their secretions differ? May not the different foods require the action and influence of different glands?

We have been accustomed to think that the mechanical action of food and the chewing process arousing to such vigorous action the salivary glands had a like influence over the gastric glands, but Pavlov with his experiments on dogs has demonstrated that the gastric are but little if any affected by the mechanical action of the eating and swallowing apparatus or the mere contact of food either in the mouth or in the stomach. By means of a divided esophagus and fistulous opening into the stomach, he was able to extract the ingesta on its way to the stomach and to measure the gastric secretion as it dripped from the open fistula into a suitable receptacle. Into the mouth of a hungry dog thus mutilated is placed in succession acids, mustard, pepper, salines, bitters, etc., all causing free flow of saliva, but no gastric juice at all. A well trained dog will even accept pebbles in his mouth, go



through the motion of chewing and swallowing them, thus they drop out of the open esophagus but excite no gastric flow. But now bring some meat and feed the dog, that also drops out of the open esophagus, but in five minutes a free flow of gastric juice begins.

Again after the flow has ceased, bring meat again before the eyes and nose of the eager, hungry dog, none is given him but in five minutes gastric juice is flowing freely. Thus was demonstrated the purely psychic origin of gastric secretion, at least in the canine tribe.

This demonstration has an important bearing on digestion.

(To be continued.)

### **TUBERCULOSIS.**

**Ovid S. Laws, M.D., Los Angeles, Cal.**

Read before the California State Eclectic Medical Society.

Doubtless this is a familiar word to all of you, and threadbare from much handling.

I wonder how many of you are prepared to give a clear-cut definition of the word "Tuberculosis"?

I have been urged to write a paper for this meeting, at least a short one, and I feel sure I could not select a topic that would be more appropriate under present conditions of medical opinion on this subject.

The people are constantly being warned that tuberculosis is a highly contagious disease, and all sorts of schemes are talked of for excluding people thus afflicted from society. But a large proportion of the people have a good share of common sense, which cannot be said of some very smart doctors, and they see how matters are, and say if consumption is so very contagious, the earth would long since have been depopulated. I have been observing and treating such cases for half a century and I conclude that the people are right.

Just yesterday a man told me that his mother died of consumption after raising a large family of children, not one of whom has ever shown any signs of the disease. Thousands of such facts can be adduced right in the face of this tuberculosis scare.

But facts count for nothing when they are not wanted. My observation is that tuberculosis is not at all contagious, and not so infectious as many suppose, as the above named facts surely prove. However, I do not object to reasonable care and perfect cleanliness all the time.

Now please let me tell you what tuberculosis is, and some causes of it, and some hints at treatment.



Tuberculosis is a condition of the body when the vital force is unable to keep up the vegetative process equal to the natural waste that is constantly going on. Hence the blood becomes polluted, and waste materials will clog up tissues here and there to form tuberculous matter and nests for bacilli that thrive on such material.

These conditions vary with different cases, as no two are exactly alike in vital force, and other conditions.

The only immunity from tuberculosis is a sufficiently high grade of vital force, or talent for longevity inherited from our ancestors. Dissipation can so weaken the power of resistance that one with a high grade of vital force may become infected and either get well or hold out for twenty years or more before the grim monster wins the fight. A life line of one inch or more gives a chance of longevity, and a good degree of immunity from disease. Less than half an inch of life line gives a frail or sensitive constitution that gets all diseases that come along, and most of them die before full grown.

They are the ones easily infected with tuberculosis. Contributing causes are colds that end in chronic catarrh; overtaxing the powers by work or dissipation, and the internal use of such drugs as destroy cell growth, and even the blood corpuscles. Such causes are constantly at work and likely to continue.

The best treatment for tuberculosis, as all must admit, would be such a course as would rid the system of all morbid materials and prevent an accumulation later.

To accomplish that I would commend Dr. Tanner's method of fasting, coupled with the free use of Anemopsis, Thuja, and Echafolta to purify the blood.

Most cases where the vital force is indicated by a life line of three fourths of an inch or over, can be restored to a fair degree of health by such a course.

I give you these few words as they come to me from long observation and much experience.



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## BACK TO NATURE.

The cry "Back to Nature" is heard in the land with such continuous and loud acclaim that it commands the attention of all men. The followers of this particular cult undoubtedly are in earnest. They think they are reformers, though they possess the usual foibles of the faddist. Such people set out on an endurance race as if it were a casual outing. With great ideas urging them ever forward, their enthusiasm soon becomes exhausted and they fall by the way-side, completely discouraged. After a short breathing spell they are up and off again, though usually at a tangent to their former course. They expect to accomplish great things, but at the end it is seen that they have accomplished nothing.

That the human animal, in his eagerness to show his superiority over other animals, does many absurd things in his worship of that goddess called civilization, we do not deny; but that is no reason why he should revert to a former type and worship another goddess called nature. One of the marks of man's superiority over other animals upon which he insists first, last, and all of the time, is his ability to reason. And one of the peculiar aberrations that possess humanity is that nearly every man thinks that he can reason



better than his fellows. As a matter of fact an exceedingly small percentage of men can reason logically. This statement will be denied of course; but we acknowledge its truth, in a way when we cry "Back to Nature." For by this act we say our reason has led us astray, we must return to our animal instincts, our boasted civilization, the child of our combined mental effort, is as nought. Even as the beasts of the field and the birds of the air we again must partake of the bounty of nature.

Our ears are so familiar with the sound of the phrase "bounty of nature" that it sounds good. But what does it really mean? Let us consider for a moment exactly what nature has done and will do for a man—not in a complaining spirit, but rather in a spirit of reasonable enquiry. At present, man's activities are limited by certain practically unchangeable conditions. He is fixed to this earth and he must make the best use he can of its land, water, air and ever-changing temperature. The greater part of the land is barren, and of the remainder a considerable part is uninhabitable by the white man. The fertile valleys which feed the world, do so by reason of the labor of man. It is true that certain grains and fruits do grow "wild," but they are so deficient in both quantity and quality that they would not support more than a fraction of our present population. And, even though both salt and fresh water teem with life, only a small portion is edible, and this becomes so only upon the exercise of considerable labor and skill, not only in the catching but also in the preparing for food. As to the availability of water for drinking purposes, it can be classified correctly only as bad, worse, worst. That man can use it almost with impunity is proof only of his remarkable adaptability. And the air—the so-called essence of life—it can be found in a pure state only at such altitudes and in such places that it is unattainable for man. Perforce he must be content and adapt himself to impure air as well as impure water. Finally there is climate, an aggregation comprising all of these conditions as well as temperature and some other things. The polar and the equatorial regions are equally impossible. The remainder of the earth has great changes of temperature daily as well as seasonal; and the discomforts from this are augmented by the variations in humidity. The temperature of man must remain constant, and this external and eternal fluctuation makes life not only difficult, but actually impossible, except as man is able to provide both shelter and raiment for himself. The provisions of nature are totally inadequate to support man, unless he adds thereto by his own skill and labor. However, if a



man really believes in the "Back to Nature" fad let him be consistent and go the whole length. The most of them just sample a little. One man will eat whole wheat bread with unction to his soul, forgetting that nature produces a very inferior wheat and bread not at all. It is man who evolved the scheme to make bread as well as to cook other foods. Man also clothes himself and warms himself in ways that other animals do not; and yet nature provides equally for all.

There is a "Back to Nature" man living in this vicinity who approaches the real thing. He lives in a cave which he found in a hillside, and warms himself by a friendly sun. His clothing is a long gunny-sack gown without sleeves, worn only in deference to public sentiment. His hair and beard are uncut and his nails are as nature makes them. He says that he never bathes, and one's sense of sight and smell corroborate the statement. His food consists of uncooked grains and fruits, and he regrets that the only source of supply is not from nature, but from over-civilized man. He leads a quiet, uneventful, unworried life, and believes that he is starting a much needed and soon to be world wide reform. All of which is absurd, and we all know that it is absurd. However, is it not strange that reasoning man allows himself to become a partisan of such a cult?

### BACK TO THE PLOUGH.

Need a thinking man think twice to perceive that the trend of modern thought of those most concerned in medicine leads now to the text that as a title heads this article? Need a man think very deeply to discover that the fallacy of some people has been that of imagining that humanity can live and thrive without depending upon the life that comes from the work accomplished by the plough? Out of the earth comes that which guides and conserves the life-current of all animals, including mankind. The plough is but an instrument to conserve possibilities in that direction. On the locked-up energies conserved by vegetation animals live. Selected forms of vegetation are the food of animals, as well as are the standard organic remedial agents that have from all time served humanity. The passing faddist vainly imagines that the record of the centuries can be broken by an artificial something that takes the place of the great vegetable world. Now it may be one thing, now it may be another, that possesses the thought of the faddist, but in the end the bank of wealth of all that is stands supreme in the vegetable kingdom and its products.

But recently we have seen the crusade of the artificially-



created synthetic, so important, apparently, in the eyes of some persons, as to promise to blot from use the natural products of the field and the forest. We have seen, indeed, the death of some important industries through these artificial processes. Thus, indigo and madder and other dye-stuffs have been swept from their thrones by the art of the synthetic chemist. Thus salicylic acid and its products, even to a synthetic substance of the composition of wintergreen oil, have become conspicuous as replacers of some of the natural products. Thus substitutes for such narcotics as morphine, and for such anesthetics as cocaine, come to us from these same directions. These and such as these lead men of balanced thought to hold on to that which is good, but yet to hope that even greater possibilities lie in the future. But these facts and such as these lead other men, the faddists, to fly off on a tangent, and let go that which is good, sacrificing their opportunities in directions the centuries have established as being good.

A limited number of synthetic products, a very limited number of established remedies from the animal kingdom, stand to credit the work that has been established in these directions, these forming so very small a factor in all that conserves life's processes as to be but a fragment, on which the thoughtful enthusiast bases his hope for an enlarged future.

One of the causes of lamentation for the philanthropist and the student, is this tendency of some people to build upon a fragment, hoping to form a perfected temple that can have no possible existence, and, in doing so, to recklessly tear down the work of ages gone by. Much as the magnificent temple of Diana of Ephesus was used as a quarry, to create buildings that are now of use only as a fragment here and there indicates the origin of that fragment, so is such work as these men do to take its place in the testimony of the passing day.

The time is surely near at hand when men balanced in thought, but yet no less enthusiastically hopeful than is the faddist, will call a halt in the direction of the craze that now possesses some men in the professions of medicine and pharmacy. "Back to the plough" is the cry that soon must come from the leaders in thought and in action. When comes that cry, and the attempt to dethrone the vegetable materia medica and its product is ended, it will be seen that those rationally concerned in the evolution of the materia medica are those who have held firmly to that which was established in the direction of the vegetable materia medica, and yet we have thankfully accepted whatever came from any direction whatever outside, crediting therefor him to whom credit was due.

Comes now the object of this discursive sketch. The re-



known pharmacologist, Professor Alexander Tschirch, a follower of the late celebrated Professor Fluckiger, was recently called to London to deliver an address concerning the science of pharmacy and of pharmacognosy. A more magnificent review of that which came from the past, a more remarkable summary of the present, and a more clearly-cut prediction as to the future, we have never seen presented within the same space. Said the Professor, quoting from Euripides, "Happy is he who has obtained an insight into the course of the past;" adding that such men as Fluckiger, as Goethe says, "took frequent delight in immersing themselves in the 'Spirit of the Times,'" closing, as Leibnitz observes, "Our civilization proceeds, not in a straight, ascending line, but in a spiral, returning continually to a point in the line a little above that from which it started."

Thus we would say that the faddist and the faddists lead their intoxicated followers amid unbalanced hallucinations in a spiral that too often wanders away from fact and into fancies from which, when passes the fad that possesses them, the body returns to the point from which it started, with just a little added to the sum of human knowledge as a record of it all.

But what is this foundation to which humanity does, and must, return? Let us repeat the words of Professor Tschirch:

"We may therefore assuredly hope that medicine, when it has thoroughly ruined the digestion with synthetical remedies, and tested all the organs of the animal body, will return once more to drugs, and will employ them to a greater extent than it does at present. It will return once more to the most ancient remedies of mankind—to the medicinal plants and drugs, for the utility of which the experience of thousands of years vouches."

Let us close with the thought that the Eclectic physician is seldom misled by the fancies and the fallacies and the fads of him in synthesis or organotherapy. The Eclectic physician stands today, where Professor Tschirch hopes others who have wandered will stand, when their fads and their fallacies have "thoroughly ruined the digestion with synthetic remedies, and tested all the organs of the animal body." To the latter Professor Tschirch refers as "the disgusting pharmacy of the eighteenth century, which extolled the various organs of the human body and their secretions."

Lloyd, in E. M. J.

#### SOCIETY CALENDAR.

National Eclectic Medical Association meets in Boston,



Mass., June, 1910. Dr. G. W. Thompson, New York City, President; W. P. Best, M.D., Indianapolis, Ind., Secretary.

Eclectic Medical Society of the State of California meets in Los Angeles, May, 1910. J. T. Farrar, M.D., Berkeley, Cal., President; J. Park Dougall, M.D., Douglas Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal., Secretary.

Southern California Eclectic Medical Association meets in Los Angeles in May, 1910. Q. A. R. Holton, M.D., Whittier, President; M. Blanche Bolton, M.D., San Pedro, Secretary.

Los Angeles County Eclectic Medical Society meets at 8 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month. James Beard, M.D., Los Angeles, Cal., President; P. M. Welbourn, M.D., 818 Security Bldg., Los Angeles, Secretary.

#### LOS ANGELES COUNTY ECLECTIC MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The Los Angeles County Eclectic Medical Society met in regular monthly session at the office of the college at 8. P. M., February 1st, 1910. In the absence of the president, Dr. G. W. Finch presided. There was the usual attendance including a number of out of town members and visitors.

The usual routine business having been transacted, Dr. A. P. Baird read a paper entitled "Eclecticism, what it is and, what it is not." This proved to be an interesting paper, reviewing in a way the various theories, schools and systems of medicine, showing the broad foundation on which Eclecticism is builded and while dominated by no dogma follows only the laws of nature.

Dr. O. C. Welbourn reported four interesting clinical cases.

The paper and the clinical reports drew from the various members a lengthy discussion, making the evening an interesting one.

The next meeting of the society will be held at the same hour and place, March 1st, 1910.

Dr. Hubbard will read a paper and Dr. A. O. Conrad will furnish the regular clinical report, while Dr. O. Davis, of Sawtelle will make a report relating to the recent supposed "Ptomaine" poisoning which occurred in his home town.

Adjourned.

G. W. FINCH, M.D.,  
President, pro tem.

P. M. WELBOURN, M.D.,  
Secretary.

#### NEWS ITEMS.

Dr. J. B. Clifford, Santa Barbara, was in the city on the 12th en route to Anaheim to attend the big meeting of the



Knights of Pythias, when one hundred candidates were initiated.

Dr. A. J. Compton, Paradise, writes from Tarpon Springs, Florida, at which place he is spending some time, after an extended visit in Charleston, West Virginia. He speaks of finding in West Virginia many old time plants which he had gathered when a small boy. In Florida the soil is sandy and the trees mostly pine, live oak, palmetto and scrub oak, the fruit raised being mostly oranges and grape fruit, the latter excelling the California variety. The chief industry of Tarpon Springs is the sponge fishing, the sale of which amounts to thousands of dollars per day, buyers being there from all parts of the world. The doctor seems to have changed his view of the negro question since his arrival in the south. He will leave Florida about May or June and then may return to California.

Dr. Kelleghan, New York, paid his friends a flying visit recently when he was in the city a few hours en route from New York to San Francisco.

Dr. O. C. Darling, of Riverside, was in the city last month on business. He also called on his three proteges who are in training in the Westlake Hospital Training School for nurses.

Miss A. M. Werner resigned as superintendent of the Westlake Hospital, recently, owing to ill health. At present she is visiting friends but later expects to do private nursing.

Miss Anna Shaw is the new superintendent of nurses at the Westlake Hospital. Miss Shaw is well known by the medical profession in Southern California because of her previous relation with the Deaconess Hospital in this city and more recently when superintendent of the San Antonio Hospital at Uplands, which position she resigned to come to the Westlake Hospital.

If you aren't a subscriber for the California Eclectic Medical Journal or if your subscription is due—please fill out the blank which you will find in the advertising section and send to us at once. The postal authorities are very particular about subscribers paying in advance.

"Dr. Jessie G. Forrester, formerly of Chicago, has located in Santa Monica. Dr. Forrester graduated from the Bennett Medical College, class of 1886."

Dr. C. E. Phillips of Wilton, Wis. is taking a prolonged vacation in Southern California and has headquarters in Pasadena. He made a friendly call at the college office recently



and expressed himself as well pleased with California climate and the prosperity of our school.

In some recent correspondence with Dr. R. E. Kunze about Dr. Joseph Rhodes Buchanan who spent some time in Los Angeles and died about a year ago in San Jose, Cal. he says: "I never saw Professor Jos. R. Buchanan wear gloves on the coldest day we had in New York City. He always tucked his hands into his coat sleeves."

Dr. W. H. Newman, a resident of Belmont Heights, a suburb recently annexed to Long Beach, has been chosen by the Long Beach City Board of Health as health officer of the "Queen of Beaches" to succeed Dr. W. Harriman Jones, who has held the position for the last five years. Dr. Newman is professor of Osteology in the California Eclectic Medical College.

#### BOOK REVIEWS.

A TEXTBOOK ON PRACTICAL OBSTETRICS. By Egbert H. Grandin, A.B., M.D., of Columbus Hospital, New York; with the collaboration of George W. Jarman, M.D., of the General Memorial Hospital, and Simon Marx, of the New York Postgraduate Medical School. Fourth edition, revised and enlarged. Illustrated with 47 full-page photographic plates and 116 illustrations in the text. Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Company. 1909. Price \$4.50.

True to its title this book is thoroughly practical, only a very few pages being devoted to those subjects which are preparatory to the study of obstetrics.

Today the major part of obstetric practice is founded on fact, but where divergent views obtain the consensus of the majority of the profession is readily found. For the student lacking experience sufficient to judge for himself, it is safe to follow the teaching which commends itself to the majority of teachers, even though in a very short time further experience may cause a modification in the teaching. The busy general practitioner when in search of information wishes to secure it without the loss of time entailed in searching through a mass of theory and statistics.

This work is not theoretical, but practical, being essentially clinical in its teaching and therefore a guide to practice. It is direct in its statement wherever facts warrant such directness, whenever there appears to be a difference of opinions as to facts that which preponderates is given. The illustrations, many prepared from original photographic plates, really illustrate. The wood cuts, which have appeared in works on this subject from time immemorial have been omit-



ted. The text is concise and yet fully elucidates. For a practical up-to-date work on obstetrics we recommend this work by Drs. Grandin, Jarman, and Marx, to the profession, especially to the beginner and the busy general practitioner.

### READING NOTICES.

#### THE EARLIEST SYMPTOM OF ENLARGED PROSTATE.

Increased urinary frequency, chiefly nocturnal in character, is the earliest and most frequently encountered symptom of enlarged prostate. Many cases of hypertrophied prostate might never develop beyond this point if sanmetto was administered as a prophylactic, and the discomfort of rising two or three times at night to urinate, to say nothing of entering upon a catheter life, might be avoided.

It is especially in the chronic prostatic hyperplasia in old men, always associated with chronic vesical catarrh, that sanmetto gives the most brilliant results. Numbers of cases can be recited in which the use of sanmetto alone has not only relieved the vesical irritability, but has seemingly reduced the hypertrophy of the prostate and enabled the patient to dispense with catheterization and micturate unassisted for the first time in years.

There is a large class of post-nasal, pharyngeal, and throat affections due just now, and we do not know of any appliance quite so well adapted for treating cases of this description as the Nebulizers and compressed air apparatus put out by the Globe Manufacturing Co., of the famed "health town" of Battle Creek, Mich. Medicated vapor applied "on the spot" is the keynote of the Globe treatments,—even to applying the vapor to the middle ear when necessary,—under proper pressure, and with vibratory impulses designed to manipulate the mucous membrane of the remotest parts of the air tract. With convenient air supply—apparatus for which this company also supplies—this method is held by a large and growing number of physicians to be very satisfactory,—in fact, unapproached by any other non-surgical method. Their catalogs and formularies supplied on request.

#### BROMALBIN IN EPILEPSY.

The defects of the inorganic bromides in the treatment of epilepsy and other convulsive disorders have long been recognized by medical practitioners. While the bromides have been extensively prescribed—because nothing better had been devised to take their place—their proneness to derange the stom-



ach and to produce systemic disturbances has militated against their usefulness.

The "something better" appears now to be at hand. Reference is made to Bromalbin, an organic compound in which bromine is chemically combined with albumen. Bromalbin contains approximately 15 per cent. of bromine. It is in the form of a light-yellow powder and is odorless and practically tasteless. It is insoluble in water, alcohol, acids and the ordinary solvents, but is slowly soluble in alkaline solutions.

Bromalbin was evolved in the chemical laboratories of Parke, Davis & Co. Before being offered to the medical profession at large it was subjected to thorough clinical test by leading practitioners throughout the country in a large number of cases in which bromine medication was indicated. Reports of its use in the treatment of epilepsy were highly encouraging, and the belief is expressed that it will prove equally efficacious in hysteria, neurasthenia, reflex headache, insomnia, migraine, and other nervous affections.

The chief advantage of Bromalbin over the inorganic bromides appears to be in its adaptation to long-continued treatment. It passes through the stomach practically unchanged, consequently does not produce the gastric irritation common to the alkaline bromides. Slowly dissolving in the intestinal secretions, it is then absorbed, producing a gentle, prolonged systemic effect. Other advantages are: its more complete absorption, its comparative tastelessness, and the small likelihood that it will produce acne, dizziness, or other symptoms of bromism. It is marketed in powder form (ounce vials) and may be given in water, coffee, chocolate, syrups, wines or any beverage not alkaline in character. It is also supplied in 5-grain capsules (bottles of 100), in which form, perhaps, it is likely to be most commonly used. There is wide need of a sedative such as Bromalbin promises to be, and fuller reports on the new agent will be awaited with interest by the profession.



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### THE THERAPEUTIC VALUE OF IODINE AND LIME.

The value of iodine as a remedy for many diseases of the respiratory organs has long been recognized but unfortunately this drug when given for any length of time or in effective doses is apt to cause marked systemic disturbances. The individual suffering from phthisis, chronic or other diseases of the respiratory organs affecting unfavorably oxygenation, particularly of the blood, requires iodine, it is true, but he also needs to be well nourished, and heretofore, the anorexia, sub-acute gastritis and other disturbances following its exhibition more than counter-balanced the beneficial results obtained.

In many individuals, intolerance of the drug is extreme, "iodism" making its appearance after a few doses. For these and other well-recognized reasons, iodine had, to a great extent, been dropped from the materia medica of a large number of physicians, until the introduction of Calx Iodata (Calcidin, Abbott) some few years ago enabled them to secure all its desirable effects without producing at the same time undesirable symptoms. Calx Iodata, as the name indicates, is a definite substance containing 15 per cent of available iodine with 85 per cent of calcium compounds (hydrate and carbonate.) In the system the lime and iodine, modified, are acted upon conjointly and produce therapeutic results entirely different from those obtained from iodine alone in any known form. As our knowledge of the body chemistry increases we are able to understand why certain drugs produce definite results when given under similar conditions.

We know now that iodine has proven beneficial in phthisis, not only because it exerts an inhibitive action upon the growth of bacteria themselves but because its products combine with oxygen and cause increased activity of the cells. Destruction of low-grade tissue goes on more rapidly and—provided elimination is maintained meanwhile—the system



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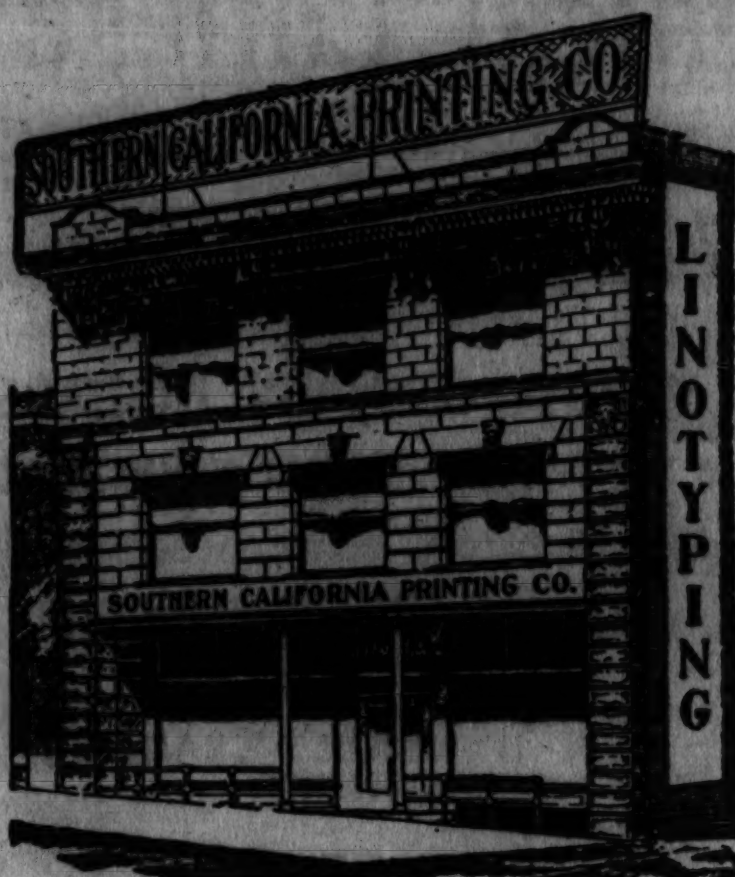
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